



# LAST CALL

Alcoholic Beverage  
Regulation  
Administration  
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3rd Floor  
Washington, DC  
20009  
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FAX  
[www.abra.dc.gov](http://www.abra.dc.gov)

## Mayor Releases Proposed Medical Marijuana Regulations

**O**n August 6, 2010, Mayor Adrian Fenty introduced proposed regulations for the implementation of the Legalization of Marijuana for Medical Treatment Amendment Act of 2010. The Act gives the Mayor the power to regulate the cultivation, possession, distribution and use of medical marijuana. The Mayor stated in a press release that "All District residents deserve access to the full slate of medical treatments available. My administration will work to ensure that medical marijuana is dispensed safely and efficiently."

The Council of the District of Columbia unanimously passed the bill on April 20, 2010 and it was signed by Mayor Fenty on May 10, 2010. Congress was granted 30 days to review the Bill. The Bill became effective on July 27, 2010.

The Act will allow physicians licensed by the District to recommend medical marijuana to residents with qualifying medical conditions or to those who are undergoing

qualifying medical treatment. A physician may recommend medical marijuana for the following medical conditions: HIV/AIDS, glaucoma, conditions characterized by severe and persistent muscle spasms, cancer or any condition that cannot be effectively treated by ordinary measures. Physicians may also recommend medical marijuana to mitigate the side effects of some medical treatments.

The Department of Health (DOH), ABC Board, and the Metropolitan Police Department (MPD) have been delegated the authority by the Mayor with the responsibility for regulating the use of medical marijuana in the District. The new regulations are currently undergoing a 45 day public comment period.

*Mayor's Order and the proposed rulemaking can be reviewed on the ABRA website at [www.abra.dc.gov](http://www.abra.dc.gov) and click on Education and Services.*

## HIGHLIGHTS:

- > Proposed Medical Marijuana Regulations Released
- > Free Training on Quarterly Reports
- > Kudos to ABC Licensees
- > ABRA Receives Award
- > Omnibus Alcohol Bill Public Hearing
- > Upcoming License Renewals for Taverns and Nightclubs
- > Extended Hours for September 6—Labor Day

## Quarterly Statements Training Sessions

The Alcoholic Beverage Regulation Administration (ABRA) will be conducting two free training sessions regarding quarterly statements and how to file them. Additionally, the training sessions will cover the statutory books and records requirements that you are to maintain.

The two training sessions will cover a licensee's responsibilities for filing quarterly statements with ABRA as well as calculating the compliance with the District's statutory food requirements. Both training sessions are voluntary and your participation is not required.

Each of the training sessions will be held on August 26, 2010 and will last for two (2) hours. Here are the times and location for each session:

**1250 U Street, NW, 3rd Floor**  
**Session 1—9:00 to 11:00 am**  
**Session 2—2:00 to 4:00 pm**

If you are a restaurant or hotel and would like to participate, please RSVP to ABRA's auditor, Adeniyi (Neal) Adejunmobi at (202) 442-4453 or e-mail [neal.adejunmobi@dc.gov](mailto:neal.adejunmobi@dc.gov) by August 24, 2010.

### Kudos to ABC Licensees for "No Sale to Minors"

Over the past year, ABRA and MPD have continued to conduct joint compliance checks with the National Capitol Coalition to Prevent Underage Drinking (NCCPUD) youth advocates to ensure that ABC establishments do not sell alcoholic beverages to anyone under the age of 21. Through these efforts many ABC licensees have complied and not sold alcoholic beverages to minors.

This year, ABRA instituted a "Congratulatory Letter" and certificate that is sent to every licensed establishment that does not sell to a minor during a compliance check. Three hundred and eight (308) "Congratulatory Letters" and certificates have been sent to licensees thanking them for a job well done.

ABRA encourages all licensees to keep up the good work!

### ABRA Receives Law Enforcement Award

On August 2, 2010, the Underage Drinking Enforcement Training Center informed ABRA that our agency has been selected as one of the recipients of the "2010 Office of Juvenile Justice Delinquency Program (OJJDP) Law Enforcement Agency of the Year Honorable Mention Award.

The award will be presented to ABRA at the 2010 12th Annual National EUDL (Enforcement of Underage Drinking Laws) Leadership Conference "Building Community Futures with Blueprints for Success" in Anaheim, California, August 18-20, 2010. The award will be presented during the Law Enforcement Awards Luncheon on August 20, 2010.

ABRA received the National Liquor Law Enforcement Association's "2009 Innovative Liquor Law Enforcement Program of the Year Award" at the 2009 11th Annual National EUDL Leadership Conference.

### Omnibus ABRA Amendment Act of 2010 Hearing

A public hearing has been scheduled by the City Council on the "Omnibus Alcoholic Beverage Regulation Amendment Act of 2010" for Monday, September 20, 2010, at 9:00 a.m.

The Act, which was introduced by the Mayor, is designed to strengthen the ability of ABRA to enforce various regulatory alcohol violations. The measure allows a restaurant owner to apply for an additional license to sell unopened containers of alcohol for patrons to take home with them. The Act seeks to reduce the number of licenses currently kept in safekeeping by charging a fee; it strengthens the Agency's enforcement efforts by making it a violation for an establishment to knowingly allow a patron to leave the premises with an open container of alcohol; and it would also clarify that it is a regulatory violation to sell or serve alcohol on a suspended or expired license.

### License Renewals—Nightclubs and Taverns

Retailers' Class CN, DN (Nightclubs) and CT, DT (Taverns) are reminded that they have until September 30, 2010 to renew their liquor license.

ABRA will be mailing renewal packages to all Taverns and Nightclubs by August 31, 2010. Payments are required to be made in person at ABRA, 1250 U Street, NW, 3rd Floor, Washington, DC 20009.

Any outstanding fines must be paid at the time of renewal. Checks, MasterCard, or Visa are accepted made payable to DC Treasurer. **NO CASH!!!** Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact ABRA at (202) 442-4423 and request to speak with Danielle Balmelle, Program Manager of the Licensing Division or e-mail her at [danielle.balmelle@dc.gov](mailto:danielle.balmelle@dc.gov).

### Extended Hours of Operation



**E**xtended hours reminder—Licensees may remain open one extra hour to sell and serve alcoholic beverages on the night before District of Columbia and federal holidays.

Licensees are eligible for this extension if: (1) They do not have a voluntary agreement; or (2) Their voluntary agreement does not have any restrictions on hours. This policy does not extend an establishments permitted hours of entertainment, nor does it alter the two-hour

kitchen requirement for restaurants prior to closing.

Labor Day is Monday, September 6. DC and the Federal government offices will be closed. Therefore qualifying licensees may extend their hours on Sunday evening, September 5, until 3:00 a.m. Monday morning (on-premises).

Feel free to visit the ABRA website to review the entire 2010 Extended Hours Calendar at [www.abra.dc.gov](http://www.abra.dc.gov).